

HOUSE RESOLUTION 222

By Moore

A RESOLUTION to recognize Colonel Courtney Taylor, United States Army, for his outstanding and distinguished military career.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize members of the armed forces who have established distinguished records during their military careers and who have demonstrated great courage and competence in service to their country; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Courtney Taylor of the United States Army is one such outstanding individual who, for the past twenty-four years, has served this Nation in both peace and war with great valor, professionalism, and dedication to duty, earning a much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, after graduating as an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate from Stetson University in DeLand, Florida, he honorably answered the call to military service, proudly entering active duty in 1988; and

WHEREAS, most recently rendering sterling service as the Commander of the 599th Transportation Brigade in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Colonel Taylor was often described as a wise leader and extraordinary gentlemen, and those under his command deeply admired his unparalleled commitment to his country; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Taylor has served with the courage and conviction of a true patriot in troop leadership and staff positions as a Logistics Officer in the XVIIIth Airborne Corps and Special Operations Units, skillfully executing his assigned duties during both combat and peacekeeping operations; and

WHEREAS, while stationed at Fort Bragg and during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Courtney Taylor cultivated a reputation for the utmost integrity as a Platoon Leader for the 126th Transportation Company, Battalion Maintenance Officer for the 7th Transportation Battalion, and Platoon Leader for the 403rd Transportation Company; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Taylor served with acumen and alacrity as a Plans and Operations Officer for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Support Command and Company Commander for the 372nd Transportation Company, earning the respect of the entire Fort Campbell community due to his fortitude and exemplary leadership style; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to Fort Bragg, this valiant soldier was named the Division Transportation Officer for the 82nd Airborne Division and then the Battalion Executive Officer for the 82nd Forward Support Battalion; and

WHEREAS, foregoing the comfort and security of his native land, Courtney Taylor traveled to Sinai, Egypt as a Force Transportation Officer for the Multinational Force and Observers; and

WHEREAS, he next brought his extraordinary military expertise to MacDill Air Force Base in Florida and joined the United States Special Operations Command as a J4 Theater Support Officer; and

WHEREAS, having proven himself to be a thoughtful and dedicated leader, Courtney Taylor was named the Battalion Commander for the 330th Transportation Battalion (Airborne) and LTF 330 Deputy Commanding Officer for the Sustainment Brigade (Airborne) while stationed at Fort Bragg and during Operation Enduring Freedom; and

WHEREAS, he is a highly trained professional, and Courtney Taylor's military education includes the Transportation Officer Basic Course, Combined Logistics Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms Services and Staff School, Logistics Executive Development Course, Army Command and General Staff College, and the Joint and Combined Warfighting College; and

WHEREAS, this assiduous scholar also holds a master's degree in Logistics Management from the Florida Institute of Technology and a master's degree in Strategic Studies from the prestigious Air War College; and

WHEREAS, during his distinguished military career, Courtney Taylor has earned a plethora of honors and awards, including the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with two Oak leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, National

Defense Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Southwest Asia Medal with three bronze Stars, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NATO Medal, Multinational Force & Observers Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait Liberation Medal from Kuwait, Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and German, Irish, and Lithuanian Parachutist Badges; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Courtney Taylor is most grateful for the love and support he shares with his wife, Kimberly Moore Taylor, and they are both very proud of their children, Savannah and Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Courtney Taylor exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable military career, Colonel Taylor has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his superior officers, his peers, and those soldiers under his command; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we should thank him on behalf of a grateful state and nation for his courage and sacrifices to preserve the blessed freedoms and liberty we enjoy today and that our progeny will hopefully continue to cherish for generations to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Colonel Courtney Taylor on his outstanding career with the United States Army, praise him for his devotion to his country, and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.